

THE SOUTHERN TORCH

Pennyroyal – Thursday, April 1861 - Editor: Fire Eater

THE CHOICE BETWEEN WHAT IS EASY AND WHAT IS RIGHT!

The last meeting of the Kentucky state Legislature ended with the call for a sovereignty convention. This is the first time in the state's rich history and it comes at a time where every state in this country must choose a side. Many of the representatives of the Kentucky State Legislature have spoken about peace and neutrality. This is a foolish and cowardly stance. A stance that comes from a place of fear – not of reason. Yes, it is true that if we secede we will likely be part of a war. But we will be a part of a war regardless! We as Kentuckians will not be able to avoid it either way. And it is for this reason that we must choose the side that supports our rights. Some members of the legislature will likely argue in favor of staying in the United States and vote

against secession. Why? Have they already forgotten how Congress shot down our overly generous compromise regarding the Crittenden amendments? Have they forgotten how the North as a whole has undermined our rights as Southerners at every opportunity? Have they forgotten how the North celebrated the terrorist John Brown, who attacked Harpers Ferry with the hopes of inciting slave insurrections. These men haven't forgotten, it is far worse. They choose to ignore these facts because they do not want to face the reality that has been brought to our great state of Kentucky. The reality is this: we must choose between what is easy and what is right. Staying a part of a country that undermines our rights and will slowly squash our way of life. Or step into the unknown and leave these United States. I choose the latter. Like our forefathers did when the country that represented them placed its

boot upon their necks. I'll write my name on the declaration of secession at the very top as big as I can. We must protect the rights our forefathers fought and died for! Even if that means leaving the nation they built. I call to all true Kentuckians to go to your legislators and demand that they vote for what is right, not for what is easy.

SOUTH CAROLINA FIRES ON FORT SUMTER

South Carolina, the first state to secede from the United States has fired its cannons on Fort Sumter. This comes after the United States failed to turn the fort over to South Carolina upon its secession. Major Robert Anderson of the United States also refused to surrender the fort after Confederate ships ordered him and his Federal troops to turn over the fort peacefully. This is just another example of the United States disrespecting the rights of Southern

states even after they have peacefully seceded. This justified escalation from the Confederacy comes five months after South Carolina seceded from the United States. President Lincoln refused to remove Federal troops from the fort and peacefully transfer it to the state within whose borders it lies. It should also be noted that even after having multiple peaceful resolutions blatantly disrespected and refused, the Confederacy conducted a restrained and measured operation to reclaim their sovereign territory. This action resulted in no loss of life on either side.

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LINCOLN CALLS FOR 75000 VOLUNTEERS

Following the capture of Fort Sumter, President Lincoln has called for the volunteering of seventy-five thousand American men to join the Army to invade the South. The President also assigned quotas to each state, including Kentucky to fulfill. This comes days after South Carolina defended their sovereignty with no loss of life. The President now calls for young men – young Kentuckians - to attack their Southern brothers. President Lincoln has again been the aggressor in disguise, forcing Southern states to act in order to defend their rights and then using these lawful reactions as an excuse to move on them. President Lincoln now expects Kentuckians to wage a war that they want no part in.

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TRAGEDY AT SEA!

The following is an excerpt from the Daily Louisville Democrat covering a collision at sea between two ships

New York News.
 New York, April 4.—The Great Eastern sails for New York May 1st. She goes to Liverpool for her cargo.
 The American ships Junista, for Baltimore, and Joseph Fish, for New Orleans, both from Liverpool, came in collision off Fucar. The Junista was foundered. Capt. Wilson, the chief mate, carpenter, and ten men were drowned. The second mate and remainder of the crew were saved by the Joseph Fish, which returned to Liverpool.
 Insurance on cotton ships from America had advanced at Lloyd's from 30 to 60s, including the risk of capture.

MORE NORTHERN AGGRESSION!

The Following is an excerpt from the Daily Louisville Democrat outlining Lincoln's refusal to relinquish federal property and more information about Fort Sumter

Washington News.
 NEW YORK, April 2.—The Tribune's correspondent in Washington says that Gen. Scott has given assurance that there has never been any idea entertained by the administration of abandoning Fortress Monroe. The principle announced in the inaugural will not be abandoned, and if military necessity be accepted as to Sumter it will be for reasons which will not be held to apply elsewhere.
 The World says that the administration discredits the reported sailing of an Anglo-French fleet for our coast.
 The Times says it is reported that the Pawnee has been ordered to Sumter to take on board Anderson and his command. The other Southern forts are not to be disturbed.
 The Southern Commissioners have advised Jeff Davis that Sumter will be evacuated this week.
 Advances from Virginia say that the secessionists, headed by Hunter, Floyd, Dejarrett, Mason, and Ben. McCulloch, are making superhuman efforts to carry that State. The latter says some coup d'etat will be resorted to, as in Texas, if the Convention fails to carry its point.

COLOPHON

The Southern Torch

Edited by the Fire Eater

Devoted to the sacred
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Excerpt from the Daily
Louisville Democrat:
Tragedy at Sea

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